



Mishawaka Communicator



Working together to build the "Best Hometown in America" by delivering exceptional services, promoting safe and clean neighborhoods, elevating the quality of life, and inspiring pride in our community.

Dave Wood, Mayor

www.mishawaka.in.gov

May 2016

A Letter from Mayor Dave Wood



Each year it is my privilege and honor to stand before the Mishawaka Common Council and the citizens of Mishawaka and present my State of the City Address. It is a time to pause, look back over the previous year and take measure of the progress, the trends and the issues impacting the Princess City, her government and her people. Each year I choose a theme for the State of the City Address and this year's theme is **"MISHAWAKA TRANSFORMATIONS"**. Each year I try to pick a title that is representative of what is happening in the City. In my review, what clearly stood out about the projects completed in 2015 and those coming forward in 2016, is the transformative qualities they have on our City and the impact that they will have on future generations.

So what is the state of our City: **Mishawaka continues to be STRONG, GROWING, FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE and SAFE.** We continue to strive to be the most livable, competitive city in Northern Indiana. We are continuing to grow Mishawaka with an emphasis on creating opportunities **FOR ALL**. I am pleased to report that for another year Mishawaka continues to build a community that our future generations can be proud of and one that is an attractive environment in which to live, work, raise a family and retire.

From a City perspective, 2015 was a productive year, *if not one of our best years ever*. We also saw major new development announcements from local, regional, national and international companies looking to build or expand in Mishawaka. We saw job growth associated with expanding industries and a growing economy and we saw population growth with new housing options.

Once again, the City of Mishawaka passed a balanced budget. Budgets are about making choices and setting priorities and Mishawaka's success continues to be based on being fiscally conservative and not incurring long-term legacy costs that could jeopardize our stability in times of uncertainty. Mishawaka continues to be fiscally stable, lean and efficient. Following are a few 2015 highlights.

Public Safety; A Priority in the City of Mishawaka - As Mayor, one of the accomplishments that I am most proud of is the fact that overall crime reporting numbers have decreased consistently in my tenure. The Mishawaka Police Department continues to do an outstanding job evolving along with the ever-changing technologies and criminal mindset of today's world. Our drop in the crime rates is even more impressive when you think of our City's continued expansion

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Summer Concert Series 2016

Battell Park Bandshell Mondays 7:00-8:00pm

June 6 Dick and Debbie
June 13 Michiana Concert Band
June 20 The Anchors
June 27 Ain't Misbehavin'

Beutter Park Thursdays 6:30-8:30pm

June 2 The B Side
FRIDAY "Concert for a Cure"
June 3 w/The Whistle Pigs
June 9 Top Secret
June 16 HiFi2WiFi
June 30 Billy 'Stix' Nicks & the Motown Machine

Eberhart-Petro Fridays 7:30-9:00pm

June 10 Ground Control
June 17 Dazed and Confused



June
24th - 25th
Merrifield
Park

UPCOMING EVENTS!

May 14 Relay For Life
(Mishawaka HS)
May 30 Memorial Day Parade
Jun 24-25 Summerfest 2015
Jul 20 Kamm Island Fest

SUMMERFEST 5K

Download a registration form at
<http://mishawaka.in.gov/summerfest>

IRS Phone Scams

The IRS has seen a surge of phone scams as scam artists threaten police arrest, deportation, license revocation and other things. The IRS reminds taxpayers to guard against all sorts of con games that arise during filing season.

- Do not give out any information. Hang up immediately.
- Contact The Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) to report the call at 800-366-4484.
- Report the call to the Federal Trade Commission.

ONLINE ACCESS



<http://mishawaka.in.gov>



<http://facebook.com/cityofmishawaka>



<http://mishawaka.in.gov/communicator>



<http://mishawaka.in.gov/parksandrecreation>

A Letter from Mayor Dave Wood *(continued)*

and the constant influx of daily visitors to the largest retail shopping area in the region. The Mishawaka Fire Department responded to a record 6,715 calls for service, of which only 177 were calls involving some type of fire. The largest number of calls for service were medically-related, comprising of 5,191 runs.

Utilities - After 10 years of negotiation, the City finalized a Consent Decree with US EPA in May of 2014, requiring the City to construct improvements to our sewer system. As a result, the City continues to implement a Combined Sewer Overflow Long-Term Control Plan to reduce the amount of combined sewage that is discharged to the St. Joseph River during excessive rain events and snow melts. Following completion of the Consent Decree, the City began planning for the major element of the LTCP, a 7,000 foot long, 10-foot diameter storage and conveyance tunnel to be located under Third St. approximately 70 feet deep extending from the wastewater treatment plant to Merrifield Ave. This will be the largest public works project ever undertaken by the City and the residents of Mishawaka will never even see it.

Another plan for future growth of the City to keep our water system strong is the need for a new wellfield and treatment plant to serve the City's long-term water needs. I am pleased to announce that an acceptable site has been found and the site will be a large portion of the existing Juday Creek Golf Course and part of the adjoining Penn family farm property.

Infrastructure - I always say, "there are two seasons in the City of Mishawaka: winter and construction season". The following projects were the main projects that took place in 2015:

- *Church/Union Street Improvements, Phase II* - estimated investment of \$5.1 million
- *Beacon Parkway (Fir-Capital Connector)* - estimated investment of \$3.6 million
- *Mishawaka Avenue, Phase I (Main St. to Division St.) & Phase II (Cedar St. to Willow St.)* - estimated investment of \$1.2 million
- *Grove-Elizabeth-Mishawaka Ave. Improvements* - estimated investment of \$1.6 million
- *Fir Road and University Dr. Intersection Expansion* - estimated investment of 1.4 million

Downtown Mishawaka - Since imploding the remnants of the Uniroyal complex in the year 2000, the City has been actively seeking developments to rebuild the heart of our historic downtown. We now have three projects that will go a long way toward completing this vision which started more than a decade ago.

- *River Rock* – on Mishawaka Ave. and bordering Main St., Elizabeth St., and Grove St., this project will contain 72 apartments and first floor commercial space.
- *Barak Iron Rock/River Forge* – this project proposes two residential commercial towers, a small stand-alone café, a mixed use apartment building with lower level commercial, and a boutique hotel/conference center. The developer hopes to break ground on the project in the summer of 2016.
- *Regional Cities Initiative/Flaherty & Collins* – this project would be funded partly through the Regional Cities Initiative with a new 233-unit high mixed use building on the site of the former Uniroyal Complex south of Beutter Park. The development would include 150 public parking spaces in a garage located in the building.

Overall, these three development proposals represent over a half million square feet of new construction in the historic downtown. When complete, the redevelopment effort may bring over 550 new residential units and over one hundred million dollars in new construction.

Though my summary highlights a handful of items and on-going efforts, I would encourage you to read the full reports provided by each City Department for a much more complete perspective. You can find it online at <http://www.mishawaka.in.gov/soc2016>.

Once again, I want to thank all of Mishawaka for providing me this special opportunity to serve. I never take it for granted. This Princess City is a part of my being. It is my privilege to work shoulder-to-shoulder with the finest public servants anywhere. Together, we will continue to work to make decisions today with an eye toward future generations. I believe greatness lies ahead of us! I am convinced that Mishawaka's best days are ahead.

May the Princess always look over your shoulder and may God continue to bless you, our citizens and our great City of Mishawaka.



Mishawaka Municipal Code Reminders

- Sec. 14-51 All dogs must be properly licensed, inoculated and healthy. To obtain a license, contact the City of Mishawaka Finance Department at (574) 258-1622. All dogs must wear a collar and ID tags at all times.
- Sec. 58-256 All vehicles shall be parked within 12 inches of a curb or the edge of the roadway, and the front of the parked vehicle shall face in the direction of the flow of the adjoining lane of traffic.